Amendments to the Specification:

Please add the following section after the Summary section.

Brief Description of the Drawings

Figures 1A and 1B show flowchart representations of methods for decreasing flue gas acidity in accordance with embodiments of the present invention.

Figures 2A, 2B and 3 show flowchart representations of methods for lowering the acid dewpoint temperature in accordance with embodiments of the present invention.

Please add the following paragraph after line 11 on page 12.

As seen in Figure 1A, in one embodiment of the present invention, macro-staging to decrease flue gas acidity is achieved through maintaining the reducing environment for a sufficient time period such that reducible acids are reduced to achieve a desirable acidity concentration in the flue gas. Products are then exposed to an oxidizing environment utilizing OFA. As best seen in Figure 1B, in another preferred embodiment, micro-staging to reduce flue gas acidity is achieved through the use of low-NOx burners (LNB).

Please add the following paragraphs after line 4 on page 13.

As seen in Figure 2A, in one embodiment of the present invention, macro-staging to decrease dewpoint temperature of the flue gas is achieved through adjusting the reducing environment for a sufficient time period such that acid dewpoint is lowered to a desirable level. Reducible acids are reduced to achieve a desirable acidity concentration in the flue gas. Products are then exposed to an oxidizing environment utilizing OFA. As best seen in Figure 2B, in

another preferred embodiment, micro-staging to decrease acid dewpoint temperature is achieved through the use of low-NOx burners (LNB).

As seen in Figure 3, in another embodiment of the present invention, macro-staging to decrease dewpoint temperature of the flue gas is achieved. Fuel, in this case coal, is partially combusted in a first stage to create a reducing environment. The product is combusted in a second stage with an oxidizing environment. Acid dewpoint of the flue gas is measured. By adjusting the reducing environment for a sufficient time period, the flue gas acid dewpoint is lowered to a desirable level.